

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 7003

By Moon

A RESOLUTION to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Providence Lodge #48 Free and Accepted Masons and 200 years of Masonic influence in Blount County.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary organizations that, through an abiding commitment to excellence, have contributed greatly to this State for many years; and

WHEREAS, two centuries ago, on October 9, 1823, Grand Master of Masons in Tennessee and future President of the United States Andrew Jackson signed a charter to start the Brotherhood in Blount County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the chartered lodge was named New Providence Lodge #48 Free and Accepted Masons, taking its name from a prominent Presbyterian church in the community; and

WHEREAS, now under the current leadership of Worshipful Master Clarence Edwin Cherry, Jr., New Providence Lodge has had a significant influence on Blount County since its inception; Samuel Pride, the first Mayor of Maryville, was Worshipful Master of the lodge on two occasions, and John Calvin Crawford, Jr., and Andrew Edward McCulloch were Grand Masters of the Tennessee Lodge; and

WHEREAS, the founding of New Providence Lodge #48 in 1823 led to additional lodges opening throughout the county, six of which are active today; and

WHEREAS, these lodges include George Washington Lodge #181, founded in 1849 and currently under the leadership of Worshipful Master Joe Anderson; Unitia Lodge #295, founded in 1861 and currently under the leadership of Worshipful Master Dwight Gladden; and Rockford Lodge #469, founded in 1875 and currently under the leadership of Worshipful Master Carsten Bringloe Moody III; and

WHEREAS, these lodges further include Mountain View Lodge #519, founded in 1883 and currently under the leadership of Worshipful Master Hubert Holden, and Prudentia Lodge #719, founded in 1923 and currently under the leadership of Worshipful Master George Joseph Kloss; and

WHEREAS, an anniversary of this magnitude gives lodge members a chance to celebrate their long and distinguished history of charity and community service, reflect back with respect and reverence on the work, struggles, and accomplishments of those who have gone before them, and look toward the future with strength, confidence, and pride; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Brotherhood has been a pillar of the Blount County community, and it is most fitting that we recognize this exceptional organization and its positive impact on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the Masonic members of Blount County in celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Providence Lodge #48 Free and Accepted Masons and 200 years of Masonic influence in Blount County, extending our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.